

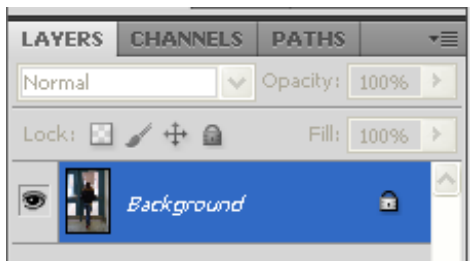
Techniques to Remove a Background

Photoshop can make the unbelievable look “real”. Follow the instructions to combine two images to make it look like a person is walking through a door into a tropical paradise.

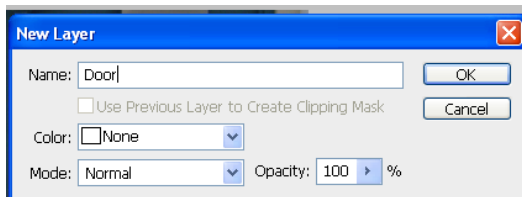


1. Open Photoshop CS5
2. Open “Door” image from wiki in Photoshop
3. Unlock the Background

When you open a picture in Photoshop, it automatically becomes the background. The Background layer is locked. To remove parts of the picture you MUST unlock the background.

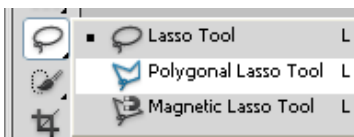


- Double click on the background layer
- in the Name box rename the layer **Door**, and then click OK. Notice how the layer no longer has a lock beside it.



4. Remove Parts of the Background

You are going to erase the panes of glass in the door. That way the tropical paradise will look like it is just outside the door. You are going to experiment with four different tools to remove the background.



Use the **Polygonal Lasso** Tool to select an irregular area that has straight lines to remove

Use the **Magnetic Lasso** Tool to select an irregular area that has curvy lines to remove.



Use the **Magic Wand** Tool to remove areas that are similar colours.

Use the **Rectangular Marquee** Tool to select a rectangular area to remove



Use the Magic Wand Tool to Remove and Area that is a Similar Colour

- Use the Zoom Tool to magnify the **top RIGHT** window pane
- Select the Magic Wand tool by click and holding on the Quick Selection Tool
- Adjust the Tolerance on the Options Bar. Pick a number between 0 and 255. (note: the higher the number the more shades of the colour will be selected)
- Click on the brick wall that appears through the glass. An area is selected
- Press DELETE to remove the area. The deleted area is now transparent. This is shown with a checkerboard

Only remove the background from the top RIGHT pane. Don't worry if some areas are not removed, these will be deleted using another tool.

Use the Rectangular Marquee Tool to Remove a Rectangular Area

- select the Rectangular Marquee Tool from the toolbox
- click and drag to draw a box around any pieces of background left in the top RIGHT windowpane
- Press DELETE to remove the area. The deleted area is now transparent. This is shown with a checkerboard

Use the Polygonal Lasso Tool to Remove an Irregular Area with Straight Lines

- Use the Zoom Tool to magnify the top LEFT windowpane
- Select the Polygonal Lasso Tool by click and holding the Lasso Tool
- click on each corner of the windowpane
- Press DELETE to remove the area. The deleted area is now transparent. This is shown with a checkerboard
- repeat these steps to remove the background in the **bottom LEFT** windowpane

Use the Magnetic Lasso Tool to Remove an Irregular Area with Curvy Lines

- Use the Zoom Tool to magnify the **bottom RIGHT** windowpane
- Select the Magnetic Lasso Tool by click and holding the Lasso Tool
- Click to create a starting point
- To trace the windowpane free hand, drag the mouse pointer around the outline of the shape
- To anchor a point manually, click the mouse button
- To delete a point you just added, press the DELETE key
- To draw a straight line, press the SHIFT key
- To complete the outline, click the starting point

5. Place the “Tropic” Picture onto its own Layer

You are now going to place a picture of a tropical paradise **BEHIND** the door layer to make it look like the person is walking through the door onto the beach.

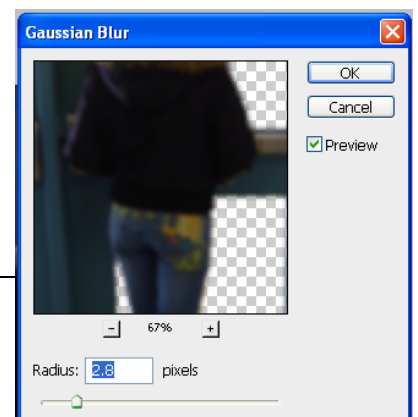
- Adjust the zoom level of the door picture so that you can see it in its entirety on the page
- Place the *tropic* picture; from the *File* menu, select *Place*
- Resize, rotate, and move the picture to position it inside the windowpanes. When finished, click the Commit Transform Tool on the Options Bar. If you want to make more changes, then select Free Transform from the Edit menu
- In the Layers palette, move the *Tropic* layer so that it is **BELOW** the *Door* layer.



6. Soften the Edges by Applying a “Gaussian Blur” Filter Effect

- select the Door layer from the Layers palette
- from the *Filter* menu, select *Blur*, and then *Gaussian Blur*
- drag the slider to adjust the amount of blur and then click OK

Tip: click the minus button to reduce the magnification of the preview window



7. Adjust the Colour of the Door Layer using the Adjustment Commands

- select the Door layer from the Layers palette
- From the *Image* menu, select *Adjustments*. Use one or more commands to make the Door layer look great!

8. Apply a Layer Style to make the Door Look Magical

- select the Door layer from the Layers palette
- from the *Layer* menu, select *Layer Style*. Use one or more of the layer styles to make the Door layer look magical.

9. Save the Picture as “Background” in your Photoshop Folder

- from the File menu, select Save As
- title the picture “Background” and save as a JPEG format in your Photoshop folder
- when the JPEG options box is displayed, click OK

